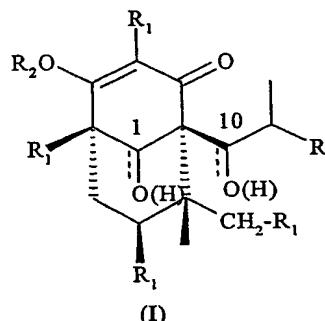


CLAIMS

## 1. Hyperforin and adhyperforin derivatives of formula (I)



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in which R is methyl or ethyl, R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable inorganic or organic base cation or a straight or branched C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> acyl residue, and in which, alternatively:

- a) R<sub>1</sub> is 3-methyl-but-1-yl and oxo groups are present at the 1- and 10- positions;
- b) R<sub>1</sub> is 3-methyl-2-buten-1-yl and hydroxy groups are present at the 1- and 10- positions;
- c) R<sub>1</sub> is 3-methyl-but-1-yl and hydroxy groups are present at the 1- and 10- positions;

15 for use as medicaments.

2. Derivatives as claimed in claim 1 for the preparation of medicaments for use in the treatment of depression and Alzheimer's disease.

3. Derivatives as claimed in claims 1 or 2 in which R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen.

4. Derivatives as claimed in claims 1 or 2 in which R<sub>2</sub> is lithium, R<sub>1</sub> is 3-methyl-but-1-yl and oxo groups are present at the 1- and 10- positions.

5. Derivative as claimed in claim 4 in which R is methyl.

6. Derivatives as claimed in claims 1 or 2 in which R<sub>2</sub> is acetyl, R<sub>1</sub> is 3-methyl-but-1-yl and oxo groups are present at the 1- and 10- positions.

7. Derivative as claimed in claim 6 in which R is methyl.

8. A compound selected from:

dodecahydrohydroperforin (Ie), dodecahydroadhydroperforin (If),  
acetyloctahydrohydroperforin (Ih) and acetyloctahydroadhydroperforin (Ii).

9. Pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds of claim 4.